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REPORT NO. R-185-52  
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**OCTOBER REVOLUTION RECEPTION AT RUSSIAN EMBASSY**

1. A reception at the Russian Embassy, 74 Drammensveien, was held on 7 November 1952 in celebration of the 35th Anniversary of the "Glorious October Revolution".

2. There were in attendance among others:

- a. U.S. - Ambassador and Mrs. Bay  
Col. Remington, Air Attache  
Capt. Galbraith, Naval Attache  
Col. Humphrey, Army Attache

Note: The wives of the attaches were invited, but instructed not to attend by the Chief of Missions. So far as is known no other U. S. personnel were invited.

- b. British - Ambassador and Lady Wright

Note: No British Attaches were invited and no other British Embassy personnel.

- c. Other attaches - French and Swedish with wives.

- d. Other diplomatic - All Chiefs of Mission with wives.

e. Norwegian - Many functionaries of the Foreign Office with wives. Many of the higher ranking military, Army, Air and Navy with wives. The King's and Crown Prince's senior military attaches.

3. The affair was brilliant with the most lavish food and refreshments observed so far in Oslo. (Note: This is believed to be the only large function held by the Russian Embassy during the year.) All Russian military attaches were present in full service dress with medals and all the Russian embassy personnel outdid itself to be charming as hosts and hostesses. Perhaps the Russian attaches were a trifle over enthusiastic as a result of their "joining in the entertainment with numerous guests".

4. The new Asst. Army Attache, Lt. Col. Dmitri Isatchenko (See Report 108-S-52, U.S. Naval Attache, dated 12 November 1952) was present and did not seem to have changed his attitude from that shown at the attache luncheon on 6 November. Captain Iroshnikov was present also and seemed genuinely cordial.

Comment: It is my belief that Iroshnikov is not necessarily "the hatchet man", that he is by nature very reserved but that on occasion he warms up and seems quite friendly. It is rumored in Oslo that the true hatchet man in the Russian Embassy is an interpreter known as KHASJEV. The rumor stems from the fact that the man has been observed to speak curtly and rudely to the Russian Ambassador, Sergei Afanasiev, and has been observed to alter very materially some of the statements of the Ambassador when interpreting for him. The interpreter is reported to have been specially trained for service in Norway and is practically bilingual so far as Russian-Norwegian language is concerned. He is said to be a student of Norwegian life and customs and quite expert on Norwegian history. He was described as in his mid-thirties, light brown hair, medium height and build.

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[REDACTED] is of the opinion that one of the hatchet men is [REDACTED] P. M. Tchiknev, and knows nothing of the interpreter mentioned above.

The Norwegian Defense Department Liaison Officer shares the belief that Iroshnikov is not a "hatchet man".

Distribution: ID USAREUR

Inclosures: None

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